

Applicant : Mark Christopher Doyle  
Appl. No. : 10/062,683  
Examiner : Ann Y. Lam  
Docket No. : 706737.33

## CLAIMS

Please cancel Claims 1 through 9 without prejudice.

Claims 1-9 (cancelled).

10. (currently amended) An injection device comprising:

a syringe comprising a barrel for containing medicine, a needle extending from a distal end of the barrel, and a needle protector cap detachably covering the needle;

a radial element extending from the barrel comprising a collar;

a body comprising open proximal and distal ends, and a cavity extending between the proximal and distal ends for receiving the syringe therein, the cavity having a cross-section for receiving the needle protector cap therethrough as the syringe is inserted into the cavity, the ~~radial element~~ collar contacting an inside surface of the body for preventing substantial lateral movement of the syringe within the cavity, the needle and needle protector cap at least partially extending beyond the distal end of the body when the syringe is received in the cavity;

a shield slidably attached to the body, the shield having proximal and distal ends, the distal end of the shield having an opening through which the needle and the needle protector cap extend when the shield is in an unguarded position, the shield being slidable between the unguarded position and a guarded position wherein the needle is covered by the shield; and

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one or more detents on the shield for locking the shield in the guarded position.

11. (previously presented) The injection device of claim 10, wherein the radial element is integrally molded as part of the barrel.

12. (previously presented) The injection device of claim 10, wherein the radial element is a substantially annular collar having an outer diameter approximately as large as an outer diameter of the needle protector cap.

13. (previously presented) The injection device of claim 12, wherein the collar is secured to the barrel by at least one of mechanical interference and an adhesive.

14. (previously presented) The injection device of claim 12, wherein the collar is integrally molded as part of the barrel.

15. (currently amended) The injection device of claim 10 ~~12~~, wherein the ~~collar~~ radial element comprises a "C" shaped collar.

16. (cancelled)

17. (previously presented) The injection device of claim 30 ~~16~~, wherein the plurality of tabs are disposed circumferentially about the barrel.

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18. (previously presented) The injection device of claim 10, further comprising a locking mechanism on the proximal end of the body, the locking mechanism engaging a proximal end of the syringe to limit axial movement of the syringe.

19. (previously presented) The injection device of claim 18, the locking mechanism comprising one or more detents defining a slot, the slot receiving at least a portion of flange on the proximal end of the barrel therein to substantially secure the syringe within the cavity.

20. (previously presented) The injection device of claim 10, wherein the syringe is a pre-filled syringe including medication therein.

21. (withdrawn) A method for assembling an injection device, comprising:  
providing a body comprising open proximal and distal ends and a cavity extending therebetween;

inserting a syringe into the proximal end of the body until a needle and needle protector cap extending from a distal end of the syringe extends through the open proximal end of the body; and

deforming an integral portion of the body inwardly to contact an intermediate portion of barrel of the syringe to prevent substantial lateral movement thereof within the cavity.

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22. (withdrawn) The method of claim 21, wherein the deforming step comprises deflecting one or more tabs on the body inwardly to contact the barrel.

23. (withdrawn) The method of claim 22, further comprising inserting the distal end of the body into a proximal end of a shield such that the shield is slidably attached to the body, the shield having proximal and distal ends, the distal end of the shield having an opening through which the needle and needle protector cap extend.

24. (withdrawn) The method of claim 23, wherein the shield is slidably attached to the body before the one or more tabs are deflected inwardly, the shield comprising one or more openings therethrough for accessing the one or more tabs on the body.

25. (withdrawn) The method of claim 23, wherein the shield is slidably attached to the body after the one or more tabs are deflected inwardly.

26. (withdrawn) the method of claim 22, wherein the one or more tabs are deflected inwardly after heating the one or more tabs to soften a material comprising the one or more tabs.

27. (withdrawn) The method of claim 22, wherein the one or more tabs are plastically deformed to deflect the one or more tabs inwardly.

28. (withdrawn) A method for assembling an injection device, comprising:

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providing a needle guard comprising open proximal and distal ends and a cavity extending therebetween;

inserting a syringe into the proximal end of the needle guard until a needle and needle protector cap extending from a distal end of the syringe extends through the open proximal end of the needle guard; and

deforming an internal portion of the needle guard inwardly to contact an intermediate portion of a barrel of the syringe to prevent substantial lateral movement thereof within the cavity.

29. (withdrawn) The method of claim 28, wherein the deforming step comprises deflecting one or more tabs on the needle guard inwardly to contact the barrel.

30. (new) An injection device, comprising:

a syringe comprising a barrel for containing medicine, a needle extending from a distal end of the barrel, and a needle protector cap detachably covering the needle;

a radial element extending from the barrel comprising a plurality of tabs;

a body comprising open proximal and distal ends, and a cavity extending between the proximal and distal ends for receiving the syringe therein, the cavity having a cross-section for receiving the needle protector cap therethrough as the

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syringe is inserted into the cavity, the tabs contacting an inside surface of the body for preventing substantial lateral movement of the syringe within the cavity, the needle and needle protector cap at least partially extending beyond the distal end of the body when the syringe is received in the cavity; and

a shield slidably attached to the body, the shield having proximal and distal ends, the distal end of the shield having an opening through which the needle and the needle protector cap extend when the shield is in an unguarded position, the shield being slidable between the unguarded position and a guarded position wherein the needle is covered by the shield; and one or more detents on the shield for locking the shield in the guarded position.